

REMARKS

Applicants conducted an Examiner interview on December 17, 2008 regarding the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections in the Office Action dated September 3, 2008. Based on the discussion with the Examiner, Applicants have amended the claims to clarify the relationship between the user-defined boundaries and the resulting window areas.

Independent claim 52 recites the limitations of dividing at least one computer display with one or more user-defined boundaries to create two or more window areas within the at least one computer display. Claim 52 also recites the limitations of associating a first application window with a first window area within the at least one computer display based on user input, wherein only the first application window can be displayed within the first window area. None of the references cited in the Office Action, Bauer nor Brooks, teaches or suggests these limitations.

Bauer teaches a method of arranging windows that are displayed on a monitor where a user can move and resize one or more windows to the desired location and size. There is no disclosure in Bauer of user-defined boundaries or window areas, or equivalents thereof. Therefore, Bauer cannot teach the limitations of dividing the monitor with one or more user-defined boundaries to create two or more window areas, as recited in claim 52. The claimed window area is an intermediate construct that reflects a specific area on the computer display which can then be associated with an application window. Such an intermediate construct does not exist in Bauer, where the windows are directly placed on the monitor display. As Bauer contains no disclosure of window areas, the reference cannot teach the limitation of associating the first application window with the first window area within the at least one computer display, as recited in claim 52.

Brooks discloses a system for viewing multiple windows within a dynamic window. Each time a new window is dragged into the dynamic window, the size and arrangement of the windows pre-existing in the dynamic window are automatically modified to accommodate the new window. The Examiner equates the dynamic window in Brooks with the two or more window areas recited in claim 52. However, Brooks explicitly teaches the dynamic window to display multiple windows, while only

the one application window (i.e., the first application window) can be associated with the claimed first window area, as expressly recited in claim 52.

In addition, Brooks teaches creating vertical and/or horizontal splitters between two or more windows once the two or more windows are dragged into the dynamic window. The vertical and horizontal splitters disclosed in Brooks are created only after a window is moved into the dynamic window and thus cannot be equated to the claimed user-defined boundaries, which divide the computer display to create the two or more window areas, as recited in claim 52.

As the foregoing illustrates, the combination of Bauer and Brooks fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 52. Therefore, these references cannot render obvious claims 52 or claims 53-59, dependent thereon. For this reason, Applicants submit that claims 52-59 are in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 60 and 68 recite limitations similar to those discussed above in conjunction with claim 52. Therefore, claims 60 and 68 are allowable for at least the same reasons as allowable claim 52. In addition, claims 61-67 depend on allowable claim 60 and, therefore, are also in condition for allowance.

Claim 53 recites the limitations of storing the one or more user-defined boundaries as a boundary layout template that is available for recall by the user. Neither Bauer nor Brooks teaches or suggests these limitations.

Bauer discloses a configuration file that stores the layout of the specific windows arranged on the monitor displayer is disclosed. However, the configuration file stores information related to the specific windows while the claimed boundary layout template is not associated with any application windows, as previously described. With respect to the disclosure in Brooks, there is no mention of storing a boundary layout template, or any other template, and, therefore cannot teach or suggest these limitations.

For this reason, the combination of Bauer and Brooks fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 53. Therefore, claim 53 is allowable for this additional reason.

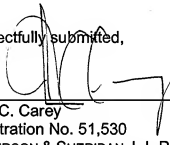
Claim 59 recites the limitations where a first portion of the first window area is within a first computer display and a second portion of the first window area is within a

second computer display. Neither Bauer nor Brooks teaches or suggests these limitations.

Again, neither Bauer nor Brooks disclose any teachings of the claimed window area. In addition, neither Bauer nor Brooks of a first portion of a window area, or equivalent structure, being displayed on a first computer display and a second portion of the window area being displayed on a second computer display.

For this reason, the combination of Bauer and Brooks fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 59. Therefore, claim 59 is allowable for these additional reasons.

Respectfully submitted,



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